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HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
NEW YORK
SENATOR

RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 475
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3284
202-224-4461

United States Senate

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Mr. Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to express my deep concern over the growing trend toward market consolidation and non-Hispanic control of Spanish language media. Specifically, as you know, the Commission has before it proposals that could place control of nearly 70 percent of Spanish language media revenue with a single non-Hispanic individual. Before considering these proposals, I urge the Commission to hold public hearings and to thoroughly study the ramifications of further consolidation of the Spanish language media market into non-Hispanic control.

At 14 percent of the United States population, Hispanic Americans are our nation's largest minority. Hispanic Americans, like all consumers, are undoubtedly best served by a diverse and competitive media market. At a time when Hispanic ownership of Spanish language media is already in rapid decline and as the Commission works to complete a comprehensive review of its broadcast ownership rules, the prospect of combining control over the two largest Spanish language radio station companies with control over Spanish language broadcast television, cable television, internet portal access, publishing, concert promotion, television production, record production and outdoor advertising raises serious concerns.

Mr. Chairman, you have in recent Senate testimony expressed your own concerns about the rapid consolidation in broadcasting and media. Congressional concern about these same topics is bipartisan and deep. In the Commission's ongoing review of its overall ownership rules, I trust you will not find it in the public interest for a single individual to control nearly 70 percent of English language media. The United States Department of Justice has already recognized the Spanish language media market as a separate and distinct market. When it comes to the country's largest and fastest growing minority population which relies on Spanish language media for news, information, culture and entertainment, I hope you will afford Hispanic Americans the same process and due deliberation as afforded for English language broadcasting, and not rush through a process "on circulation" that could put nearly 70 percent of Spanish language media under the control of a single non-Hispanic individual.

I look forward to your prompt response on this important matter, and to working with the Commission to prevent the decrease of Hispanic ownership of media, create more local and

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community oriented programming, and provide for more Hispanic voices in the Hispanic media. To be sure, these are all objectives that matter deeply to Hispanic Americans across New York from whom I hear regularly. In achieving these goals, I urge the FCC to hold public hearings and to thoroughly review any potential harm the pending actions could have on the public interest and Hispanic-owned media.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton